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News Release ~ Communiqué

Minister Dupuy encourages teams at the Canada Games in Grande Prairie

GRANDE PRAIRIE, February 19, 1995 On the occasion of the XVth Canada Games, Canadian Heritage Minister Michel Dupuy offered warm wishes for a rewarding experience to the participants and organizers of the 1995 Grande Prairie Games which begin today.

"I congratulate the athletes who qualified for the 1995 Canada Winter Games," said Mr. Dupuy. "These young competitors, representing the nation's provinces and territories, have the support of dedicated coaches, conscientious officials, thousands of volunteers, a generous private sector, and governments."

"Our athletes are a tremendous source of pride to their families, their communities and to all Canadians and they deserve our encouragement and our recognition," he added.

The Minister commended the people of Grande Prairie for their important role in ensuring the success of the Games. He also acknowledged the citizens of Jasper, where skiing and wheelchair basketball events will be held.

The Canada Winter Games take place from February 19 to March 4. Approximately 3500 athletes and coaches will register in 22 sports, while more than 200 artists will participate in the Games' cultural activities, whose theme derives from the Cree word, Iskoteo, or "Fire in the Sky ... Spirit of the People ... Power of the Land". Canada House, a gathering place for participants, their families and other visitors, will feature interactive displays about Canada's heritage, our national parks, Canadian symbols, and other facets of our cultural diversity.

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